GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:528
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
BOYCOTT OF THE LOK ADALATS
CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the lawyers` association and advocates of Supreme Court, High Courts and different Courts in the country have appealed to boycott the Lok Adalats;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of Lok Adalats held in Gujarat, Delhi and other States of the country from 1st January, 2002 till date;

(d) the number of cases filed and disposed off; and

(e) the reaction of Government, people and press thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI)

(a)& (b): The Bar Council of India has informed that it has appealed to the lawyers in the country through State Bar Councils to boycott Lok Adalats under the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002.The reason for the appeal to the lawyers is that the provisions of the said Amendment Act, 2002, according to the Bar Council of India, are `anti-litigant and anti-lawyer`.

(c)to(e): The National Legal Services Authority has informed that since 1st January, 2002, 19,557 Lok Adalats have been held across the country in which about 8,49,861 cases have been disposed of. In so far as Gujarat is concerned, during the same period, 164 Lok Adalats have been held in which about 21,543 cases have been disposed of. In so far as Delhi is concerned, during the same period 377 Lok Adalats have been held in which 4,315 cases have been disposed of. The Authority is not maintaining figures with respect to the number of cases filed.